

Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-11 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 CG-00 CIAE-00

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OSD/ ISA - CAPT B. J. GINN OSD/ ISA - J. M. MULLEN

COGARD - D. T. HAISLIP

----- 030371

R 241952 Z MAY 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PARIS PORT OF SPAIN

INFO SECDEF

CNO

NAVELEXSYSCOM

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: MARR/ US/ AS

SUBJECT: PROJECT OMEGA

REF: STATE 075541

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION UPDATES THE REFERENCED
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MESSAGE. IT REFLECTS THE CURRENT STATUS AND PROJECTED
TIMETABLE OF NEGOTIATIONS AND/ OR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PRO-
POSED EIGHT OMEGA STATIONS. BEGIN FYI. THE STATUS OF THE
EXPERIMENTAL STATION IN TRINIDAD HAS CHANGED. IT HAS BEEN

DECIDED THAT A PERMANENT STATION WILL NOT BE LOCATED IN TRINIDAD, BUT IN LIBERIA. EXCEPT CONCERNING THE TRINIDAD STATION, ACTION ADDRESSEES MAY AT THEIR DISCRETION USE THE INFORMATION PROVIDED HEREIN TO RESPOND TO PARTNER NATION INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE OTHER PROPOSED OMEGA STATIONS. IF ASKED ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE TRINIDAD STATION ADDRESSEES SHOULD STATE ONLY THAT THE US IS CONTINUING TO OPERATE AN EXPERIMENTAL OMEGA STATION IN THAT COUNTRY. END FYI. ADDRESSEES SHOULD STRESS THAT INFORMATION CONCERNING PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION OF NON- US STATIONS REPRESENTS ONLY OUR BEST ESTIMATE AND IS NOT AUTHORITATIVE, SINCE IN EACH CASE THE CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE, ETC., IS CONTROLLED BY THE PARTNER NATION.

A. NORWAY:

- (1) BILATERAL AGREEMENT SIGNED 5 NOV 1971.
- (2) CONSTRUCTION WORK STARTED NOV 1971.
- (3) STATION COMPLETE FOURTH QUARTER 1973.
- (4) STATION OFF- AIR FOR ANTENNA REPLACEMENT
AUG THROUGH NOV 1973.
- (5) STATION FULLY OPERATIONAL DEC 1973.

B. TRINIDAD - BEGIN FYI:

(1) NEGOTIATIONS WITH TRINIDAD TO CONVERT THE EXPERIMENTAL STATION THERE TO A PERMANENT STATION HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED.

(2) IT IS PLANNED THAT THE PRESENT EXPERIMENTAL STATION WILL BE OPERATED UNTIL 1977. A PERMANENT STATION, REPLACING THE EXPERIMENTAL TRINIDAD STATION, IS BEING CONSTRUCTED IN LIBERIA. END FYI.

LIBERIA:

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- (1) BILATERAL AGREEMENT SIGNED 23 APRIL 1973.
- (2) CONSTRUCTION BEGAN MAY 1973.
- (3) CONSTRUCTION TO BE COMPLETE FOURTH QUARTER
1974.
- (4) STATION ON- AIR FIRST QUARTER 1975.

C. HAWAII:

- (1) CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARDED SEP 1971.
CONSTRUCTION STARTED SHORTLY AFTER AWARD.
- (2) CONSTRUCTION TO BE COMPLETE JUN 1973.
- (3) STATION OFF- AIR FEB- AUG 1973 FOR ANTENNA
REPLACEMENT.

(4) STATION ON- AIR AUG 1973 UNDER OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF COAST GUARD CREW.

D. NORTH DAKOTA:

- (1) CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED OCT 1971.
- (2) STATION FULLY OPERATIONAL OCT 1972.
- (3) COAST GUARD CREW OPERATING STATION.
- (4) OMEGA TRANSMITTER STATION AT FORESTPORT, NEW YORK, PHASED OUT OCT 1972.

E. LA REUNION:

- (1) BILATERAL AGREEMENT IN FINAL PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION.
- (2) STATION DESIGN COMPLETE, BIDS FOR CONSTRUCTION REQUESTED.
- (3) CONSTRUCTION BEGINS SECOND QUARTER 1973.
- (4) STATION ON- AIR FIRST QUARTER 1975.

F. ARGENTINA:

- (1) BILATERAL AGREEMENT SIGNED 4 DEC 1970.
- (2) CONSTRUCTION BEGINS JULY 1973.
- (3) STATION ON- AIR FOURTH QUARTER 1974.

G. JAPAN:

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- (1) BILATERAL AGREEMENT SIGNED 15 AUG 72.
- (2) CONSTRUCTION OF STATION IS PROCEEDING. WE UNDERSTAND THE ANTENNA FOUNDATION IS COMPLETE AND THAT ANTENNA IS IN FINAL STAGES OF FABRICATION AND ERECTION. TIMING AND TRANSMITTER ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN INSTALLED.
- (3) A JAPANESE MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE HAS INDICATED THAT TEST TRANSMISSIONS WOULD COMMENCE IN FOURTH QUARTER 1973.
- (4) STATION EXPECTED TO BE ON- AIR FIRST QUARTER 1974.

H. AUSTRALIA:

- (1) BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE US AND THE GOA TO ESTABLISH AN OMEGA STATION IN AUSTRALIA HAVE BEEN PROLONGED DUE TO PUBLIC CONCERN IN AUSTRALIA (WHICH IS IN FACT UNFOUNDED, BUT HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED BY LEFTISTS AND SOME MISGUIDED ACADEMICIANS) THAT THE OMEGA SYSTEM HAS A STRATEGIC MILITARY APPLICATION.
- (2) WE HOPE THAT AN AGREEMENT WITH AUSTRALIA CAN

BE NEGOTIATED BY THE SUMMER OF 1973.

2. EACH OMEGA STATION IS MANNED BY ONLY SIX PEOPLE. THE STATION IN NORWAY IS MANNED BY CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE NORWEGIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATION. PRESENT TRINIDAD STATION IS OPERATED BY CIVILIANS EMPLOYED BY THE PHILCO CORPORATION. LIBERIA STATION WILL BE OPERATED BY LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT CIVILIANS. US STATIONS ARE OPERATED BY THE US COAST GUARD. LA REUNION STATION WILL BE OPERATED BY FRENCH NAVY PERSONNEL. ARGENTINA STATION WILL BE OPERATED BY ARGENTINE NAVY PERSONNEL. JAPAN STATION WILL BE OPERATED BY JAPANESE GOVERNMENT CIVILIANS.

3. ON 1 JULY 1971, THE US COAST GUARD ESTABLISHED AN OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM OPERATIONAL DETAIL (ONSOD). THIS DETAIL IS LOCATED IN KAILUA, OAHU, HAWAII. IT IS IN THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING AND TRAINING STAFF MEMBERS TO MANAGE THE US COMMITMENT TO THE OMEGA NAVIGATION SYSTEM. TRANSFER OF CONTROL FROM THE NAVY TO THE COAST GUARD IS EXPECTED BY 1975.

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4. TRAINING IS BEING CONDUCTED BY STATION PERSONNEL AT THE OMEGA TRANSMITTER LOCATED AT LA MOURE, NORTH DAKOTA. THIS WILL BE WHERE THE US EXPECTS TO CONDUCT TRAINING FOR THE ENTIRE SYSTEM. SOME PERSONNEL FROM THE JAPANESE MARITIME SAFETY AGENCY HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRAINED THERE.

5. FOR CANBERRA: ABOVE INFORMATION RESPONDS TO GOA REQUEST IN PARA 4 A OF YOUR 2516 (REPEATED IN CANBERRA 2649). RUSH

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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BUENOS AIRES
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